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EXAMINER

LELE, TANMAY S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2684

DATE MAILED: 05/01/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/052,057

Applicant(s)

JANIK ET AL.

Examiner

Tanmay S Lele

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 May 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1 – 5, 9, and 14 – 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition).

Regarding claim 1, Stirling teaches of an automotive storage and playback device for detachably coupling to an automobile comprising: a wireless transceiver to receive compressed digital content automatically from a computer system via a wireless local area network based on user defined preferences input into the computer system (page 2544, section C; page 2545 section D), the wireless transceiver communicably coupled to the wireless local area network when the wireless transceiver is a predetermined distance from a wireless local area network access point (page 2544, section C; page 2545, section B); and a decoder and converter to decompress and convert the digital content to be sent to and played on an output device in the automobile (page 2542, sections A and B; page 2544, section C).

Regarding claim 2, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim

1. Stirling further teaches of wherein the wireless transceiver receives the digital content automatically when the wireless transceiver is located a predetermined distance from the wireless local area network access point (page 2544, section C).

Regarding claim 3, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim

1. Stirling further teaches of wherein the wireless transceiver receives the digital content periodically at times designated according to the user defined preferences input into the computer system (page 2545, section B; page 2541, section II; page 2544, section A and C).

Regarding claim 4, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim

1. Stirling further teaches of wherein the wireless transceiver receives the digital content is received at the automotive storage and playback device in response to a user action (page 2544, section C).

Regarding claim 5, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim

1. Stirling further teaches of comprising a storage and datalink unit coupled with the wireless transceiver, the storage and datalink to receive the digital content from the wireless transceiver and convert the digital content into at least one of binary data and instructions (page 2545, section D; page 2546, sections D and F; page 2542, section A and Figure 1).

Regarding claim 9, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim

1. Stirling teaches of wherein the digital content includes at least one of a music file, a text file, an image file, a video file, and an interactive multimedia file (page 2542, section B; page 2547, section A; page 2545, section D).

Regarding claim 14, Stirling teaches of an apparatus comprising: a computer system communicably coupled to the wireless local area network (page 2543, Table 1 and section D; page 2545, section B), the computer system automatically obtaining, storing, and sending digital content via a wireless local area network access point to an

automotive storage and playback device when the automotive storage and playback device is within a predetermined distance from the wireless local area network access point (page 2544, section C; page 2545, sections B and D; and page 2542, section B), the computer system obtaining the digital content from a wide area network based on user defined preferences input into the computer system (pages 2546 – 2547, sections E, F, G; page 2547, section D and page 2541, section II).

Regarding claim 15, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 14. Stirling further teaches of wherein the computer system sends the digital content automatically when the automotive storage and playback device is located a predetermined distance from the wireless local area network access point (page 2541, section II; page 2544, section C).

Regarding claim 16, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 14. Stirling further teaches of wherein the computer system sends the digital content periodically at times designated according to the user defined preferences input into the computer system (page 2541, section II; page 2544, sections A and C).

Regarding claim 17, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 14. Stirling further teaches of wherein the computer system sends the digital content in response to a user action (page 2541, section II; page 2544, sections A and C).

Regarding claim 18, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 14. Stirling further teaches of wherein the computer system comprises: a system control application to manage and control the transfer of the digital content (pages 2543 – 2544, section V); and a user interface (page 2541, section I and II).

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6 – 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) as applied to claim 5, and further in view of Lee et al. (Lee, US Patent No. 6,374,177).

Regarding claim 6, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim

5. Stirling further teaches of further comprising a head unit coupled to the storage and data link unit (page 2543, Section V and A and Figure 2; page 2544 section B and Figures 3 and 4).

Stirling does not specifically teach of via at least one cable.

In a related art dealing with an on-board navigation computer system used in automobiles, Lee teaches of via at least one cable (as seen in Figure 4 and column 13, lines 45 – 48).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling's head-data link system, Lee's cables, for the purposes of reliably disseminating data on a automobile, as taught by Lee.

Regarding claim 7, Stirling in view of Lee, teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 6. Both Stirling and Lee teach of wherein the head unit comprises: a stereo sound processor (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figure 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54); an audio mixer coupled with the stereo

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sound processor (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figure 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54); a pre-amplifier coupled with the audio mixer; an amplifier coupled with the pre-amplifier (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figure 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54); a tuner coupled to an antennae attached to the automobile (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figure 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54); and a user interface (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figures 2 and 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54).

Regarding claim 8, Stirling in view of Lee, teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 7. Both Stirling and Lee teach of wherein the head unit further comprises: a compact disc drive coupled with the stereo sound processor (Stirling: page 2543, Figure 2 for example; Lee Figure 4, for example) and Lee further teaches of an audiocassette drive coupled with the stereo sound processor (column 8, lines 44 – 47 and column 1, lines 6 – 8).

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Kikinis (Kikinis, US Patent No. 6,055,566).

Regarding claim 10, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 5. Stirling does not specifically teach that wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a battery.

In a related art dealing with a media player, Kikinis teaches of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a battery (column 2, lines 52 – 55).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling's head-data link system, Kikinis' battery, for the purposes of portable playback, as taught by Kikinis.

6. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Obradovich (Obradovich, US Patent No. 6,542,794).

Regarding claim 11, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 5. Stirling does not specifically teach of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a temperature-based control system.

In a related art with a vehicle control and multimedia system, Obradovich teaches of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a temperature-based control system (as seen in Figure 1 and column 3, lines 30 – 40 and Figure 18).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling's storage and data link system, Obradovich's temperature control, for the purposes of providing a centralized information and control system in an automobile that is user friendly and easy to use, as taught by Obradovich.

7. Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Berberich et al. (Berberich, US Patent No. 5,703,734).

Regarding claim 12, Stirling teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 5. Stirling does not specifically teach of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a vibration dampening system.



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In an analogous art dealing with storage media, Berberich teaches of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a vibration dampening system (column 4, lines 33 – 62).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling's storage-data link system, Berberich's shock absorbing/dampening material, for the purposes of protecting the device and the material stored, as taught by Berberich.

Regarding claim 13, Stirling in view of Berberich teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 12. Berberich further teaches of wherein the vibration dampening system includes two elastomeric suspension caps (Figure 2; column 6, lines 31 – 40; Figures 9 and 10; and column 9, lines 6 – 21).

8. Claim 19 – 24, 28, 29, and 34 – 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) in view of Groeger et al. (Groeger, US Patent No. 5,923,624).

Regarding claims 19 and 34, Stirling teaches of a system and method for transferring digital content to an automobile comprising: the automotive storage and playback device including a wireless transceiver to automatically receive compressed digital content via a wireless local area network, the automotive storage and playback device coupled to an output device in the automobile that is capable of playing the digital content (page 2544, section C; page 2545, sections B and D; and page 2542, section B); and a computer system communicably coupled to the wireless local area network, the computer system automatically obtaining, storing, and sending the digital content via a wireless local area network access point to the automotive storage and playback device

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when the automotive storage (page 2545, section D; page 2544, section C) and playback device is within a predetermined distance from the wireless local area network access point, the computer system obtaining the digital content from a wide area network based on user defined preferences input into the computer system (page 2544, section C; pages 2545 – 2546, sections B and D; and page 2542, section B).

Stirling does not specifically teach of an automotive storage and playback device for detachably coupling to the automobile.

In a related art dealing with a car radio receiver that includes a recording unit for audio data, Groeger teaches of an automotive storage and playback device for detachably coupling to the automobile (as seen in Figures 1 and 2 and column 2, lines 10- 25).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling's multi-media car system, Groeger's removable sections, for the purposes of theft deterrence and remote use, as taught by Groeger.

Regarding claims 20 and 35, Stirling in view of Groeger, teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claims 19 and 34. Stirling further teaches of wherein the automotive storage and playback device receives the digital content automatically when the automotive storage and playback device is located a predetermined distance from the wireless local area network access point (page 2544, section C; pages 2545 – 2546, sections B and D; and page 2542, section B).

Regarding claims 21 and 36, Stirling in view of Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 19 and 34. Stirling further teaches of wherein the automotive storage and playback device receives the digital content periodically at times

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designated according to the user defined preferences input into the computer system (page 2545, section B; page 2541, section II; page 2544, section A and C).

Regarding claim 22 and 37, Stirling in view of Groeger, teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claims 19 and 34. Stirling further teaches of wherein the automotive storage and playback device receives the digital content in response to a user action (page 2541, section II; page 2544, sections A and C).

Regarding claim 23, Stirling in view of Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 19. Stirling further teaches of wherein the computer system comprises: a system control application to manage and control the transfer of the digital content (pages 2543 – 2544, section V); and a user interface (page 2541, section I and II).

Regarding claim 24, Stirling in view of Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 19. Stirling further teaches comprising a storage and datalink unit coupled with the wireless transceiver to receive the digital content from the wireless transceiver and convert the digital content into at least one of binary data and instructions (page 2545, section D; page 2546, section D; page 2542, section A and Figure 1).

Regarding claim 24, Stirling in view of Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 19. Stirling further teaches of comprising a storage and datalink unit coupled with the wireless transceiver, the storage and datalink to receive the digital content from the wireless transceiver and convert the digital content into at least one of binary data and instructions (page 2545, section D; page 2546, sections D and F; page 2542, section A and Figure 1).

Regarding claims 28 and 41, Stirling and Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claims 19 and 34. Stirling further teaches of wherein the digital content

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includes at least one of a music file, a text file, an image file, a video file, and an interactive multimedia file (page 2542, section B; page 2547, section A; page 2545, section D).

Regarding claim 29, Stirling in view of Groeger, teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 19. Stirling further teaches of wherein the wide area network is Internet (page 2542, section C; pages 2546 – 2547, section E – G; note IP is used, hence Internet is obvious).

Regarding claim 38, Stirling in view of Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 34. Stirling further teaches of comprising decompressing and converting the digital content into at least one of binary data and instructions (page 2545, section D; page 2546, sections D and F; page 2542, section A and Figure 1).

Regarding claim 39, Stirling in view of Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 38. Both Stirling and Groeger further teach of comprising transferring the converted content to an output device in the automobile (Stirling: page 2541, sections I and II; Groeger: Figures 1 and 2).

Regarding claim 40, Stirling and Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 39. Both Stirling and Groeger further teach of comprising playing the converted content on the output device (Stirling: page 2541, sections I and II; Groeger: Figures 1 and 2).

9. Claims 25 – 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) in view of Groeger et al. (Groeger, US Patent No. 5,923,624) as applied to claim 24, and further in view of Lee et al. (Lee, US Patent No. 6,374,177).

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Regarding claim 25, Stirling in view of Groeger teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 24. Stirling further teaches of further comprising a head unit coupled to the storage and data link unit (page 2543, Section V and A and Figure 2; page 2544 section B and Figures 3 and 4).

Stirling and Groeger do not specifically teach of via at least one cable.

In a related art dealing with an on-board navigation computer system used in automobiles, Lee teaches of via at least one cable (as seen in Figure 4 and column 13, lines 45 – 48).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling and Groeger's head-data link system, Lee's cables, for the purposes of reliably disseminating data on a automobile, as taught by Lee.

Regarding claim 26, Stirling in view of Groeger and Lee, teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 25. Both Stirling and Lee teach of wherein the head unit comprises: a stereo sound processor (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figure 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54); an audio mixer coupled with the stereo sound processor (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figure 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54); a pre-amplifier coupled with the audio mixer; an amplifier coupled with the pre-amplifier (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figure 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54); a tuner coupled to an antennae attached to the automobile (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figure 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54); and a user interface (Stirling: page 2542, section B; Pages 2546 – 2548, sections F and D; Lee: Figures 2 and 4 and column 13, lines 8 – 54).

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Regarding claim 27, Stirling in view of Groeger and Lee, teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 26. Both Stirling and Lee teach of wherein the head unit further comprises: a compact disc drive coupled with the stereo sound processor (Stirling: page 2543, Figure 2 for example; Lee Figure 4, for example) and Lee further teaches of an audiocassette drive coupled with the stereo sound processor (column 8, lines 44 – 47 and column 1, lines 6 – 8).

10. Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) in view of Groeger et al. (Groeger, US Patent No. 5,923,624) as applied to claim 24 above, and further in view of Kikinis (Kikinis, US Patent No. 6,055,566).

Regarding claim 30, Stirling in view of Groeger, teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 24. Stirling and Groeger do not specifically teach that wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a battery.

In a related art dealing with a media player, Kikinis teaches of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a battery (column 2, lines 52 – 55).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling and Groeger's head-data link system, Kikinis' battery, for the purposes of portable playback, as taught by Kikinis.

11. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) in view of Groeger et al. (Groeger, US Patent No. 5,923,624) as applied to claim 24 above, and further in view of Obradovich (Obradovich, US Patent No. 6,542,794).

Regarding claim 31, Stirling and Groeger teach all the claimed limitations as

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recited in claim 24. Stirling and Groeger do not specifically teach of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a temperature-based control system.

In a related art with a vehicle control and multimedia system, Obradovich teaches of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a temperature-based control system (as seen in Figure 1 and column 3, lines 30 – 40 and Figure 18).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling and Groeger's storage and data link system, Obradovich's temperature control, for the purposes of providing a centralized information and control system in an automobile that is user friendly and easy to use, as taught by Obradovich.

12. Claims 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stirling (Stirling, IEEE VTS 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition) in view of Groeger et al. (Groeger, US Patent No. 5,923,624) as applied to claim 24 above, and further in view of Berberich et al. (Berberich, US Patent No. 5,703,734).

Regarding claim 32, Stirling and Groeger teaches all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 24. Stirling does not specifically teach of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a vibration dampening system.

In an analogous art dealing with storage media, Berberich teaches of wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a vibration dampening system (column 4, lines 33 – 62).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to have included into Stirling and Groeger's storage-data link system, Berberich's shock absorbing/ dampening material, for the purposes of protecting the device and the material stored, as taught by Berberich.

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Regarding claim 33, Stirling in view of Groeger and Berberich teach all the claimed limitations as recited in claim 32. Berberich further teaches of wherein the vibration dampening system includes two elastomeric suspension caps (Figure 2; column 6, lines 31 – 40; Figures 9 and 10; and column 9, lines 6 – 21).

### *Conclusion*


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tanmay S Lele whose telephone number is (703) 305-3462. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 - 6:30 PM Monday – Thursdays and on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, Nay A. Maung can be reached on (703) 308-7745. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

  
Tanmay S Lele  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2681

tsl  
April 24, 2003

  
NAY MAUNG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER